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Chairman: Mr. Balarezo ..... (Peru)

Contents

Agenda item 39: Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance (*continued*)

(b) Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions (*continued*)

Agenda item 89: Eradication of poverty and other development issues (*continued*)

(a) Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006) (*continued*)

(b) Women in development (*continued*)

(c) Industrial development cooperation (*continued*)

Agenda item 92: Training and research (*continued*)

(a) United Nations Institute for Training and Research (*continued*)

Agenda item 44: Information and communication technologies for development (*continued*)

Agenda item 85: Sustainable development (*continued*)

(c) International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (*continued*)

(d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind (*continued*)

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(e) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa (*continued*)

Agenda item 86: Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and of the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly (*continued*)

Agenda item 91: Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources (*continued*)

The meeting was called to order at 10.25 a.m.

Agenda item 39: Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance (*continued*) (A/C.2/59/L.40 and A/C.2/59/L.44)

(b) Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions (*continued*)

Draft resolution on assistance for humanitarian relief and the economic and social rehabilitation of Somalia (A/C.2/59/L.40)

1. **The Chairman** announced that the Syrian Arab Republic had joined in sponsoring draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.40.

2. **Mr. Abdi** (Somalia), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.40, said that the conditions that had prompted the General Assembly to adopt previous resolutions on the delivery of emergency humanitarian assistance and the economic and social rehabilitation of Somalia persisted and had been exacerbated by unrest in many areas.

Draft resolution on assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Liberia (A/C.2/59/L.44)

3. **Mr. Sele** (Liberia) introduced draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.44 and announced that the following countries had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution: Belgium, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, France, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Italy, Japan, Lesotho, Mali, Nigeria, Norway, Portugal, Sierra Leone, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

4. The following paragraph should be added at the end of the preamble: "*Recognizing* the importance of a thriving private sector, employment generation, good governance and rule of law to sustainable economic growth,".

5. The following text should be added at the end of paragraph 4: "including inter alia by emphasizing capacity-building, institutional building and employment generation in their work and ensuring that such work complements and contributes to development of an economy characterized by an investment climate conducive to entrepreneurship, good governance and rule of law;".

6. The people of Liberia were fully cognizant of their primary responsibility in the reconstruction effort; however, the empathy and forbearance of the international community would continue to serve as a tremendous asset in that effort.

Agenda item 89: Eradication of poverty and other development issues (*continued*) (A/C.2/59/L.47, A/C.2/59/L.48, A/C.2/59/L.49 and A/C.2/59/L.50)

(a) Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006) (*continued*)

Draft resolution on the role of microcredit in the eradication of poverty (A/C.2/59/L.49)

7. **Mr. Al-Mahmoud** (Qatar), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.49 and said that microcredit had contributed to progress in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. The observance of the International Year of Microcredit in 2005 would provide an opportunity for full recognition of best practices and ideas on the wider application of microcredit.

Draft resolution on the implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006) (A/C.2/59/L.50)

8. **Mr. Al-Mahmoud** (Qatar), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.50, and recalled the hope, expressed in paragraph 34, for the annual observance of an International Human Solidarity Day.

(b) Women in development (*continued*)

Draft resolution on the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development (A/C.2/59/L.48)

9. **Ms. Feller** (Mexico), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.48, said that the Survey was of supreme importance to the international community in identifying and analysing the impact of the role of women in development. She welcomed the current focus on the link between women and migration and urged Member States to follow up on the proposals made by the Survey in that regard.

(c) Industrial development cooperation (*continued*)

Draft resolution on industrial development cooperation (A/C.2/59/L.47)

10. **Mr. Al-Mahmoud** (Qatar), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.47, which, among other things, focused on the critical role of productivity factors and industrial development in poverty alleviation.

Agenda item 92: Training and research (*continued*) (A/C.2/59/L.51)

(a) United Nations Institute for Training and Research (*continued*)

Draft resolution on the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (A/C.2/59/L.51)

11. **Mr. Al-Mahmoud** (Qatar), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.51 and stressed the need to resolve the critical financial situation and other issues related to the high costs for Institute premises, especially given the important training programmes and activities carried out by the Institute.

Agenda item 44: Information and communication technologies for development (*continued*) (A/C.2/59/L.18 and A/C.2/59/L.32)

Draft resolution on the World Summit on the Information Society (A/C.2/59/L.32)

12. **Mr. Bernardini** (Italy), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.32, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.18. A consensus had been achieved during the informal consultations.

13. **Mr. Snoussi** (Tunisia) pointed out that the text of the draft resolution in French should be revised to match the English text. After the word "*Sommet*", in paragraph 2, the French translation of the phrase "which will take place in Tunis from 16 to 18 November 2005;" should be added.

14. The following countries had joined in sponsoring draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.32: all members of the Group of 77 and China, Andorra, Canada, Finland, Germany, Japan, Luxembourg, Norway, Spain, Switzerland, Sweden and Turkey.

15. *Draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.32 was adopted.*

16. *Draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.18 was withdrawn.*

Agenda item 85: Sustainable development (*continued*)

(c) International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (*continued*)

Draft resolution on the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (*continued*) (A/C.2/59/L.11 and A/C.2/59/L.45)

17. **Ms. Anzorge** (Poland), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.45, which she was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.11.

18. In the fifth preambular paragraph, the word "such" before "extreme" should be moved and placed after the word "events". In the sixth preambular paragraph, the words "inter alia" should be replaced with "among others". In the tenth preambular paragraph, the phrase "and mitigation strategies and" should be replaced with ", mitigation,". In paragraph 4, the words "the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction" should be inserted after "strengthening of" and the words "national platforms" should be spelled with initial capital letters. Similarly, in paragraph 5, the words "International Strategy for Disaster Reduction" should be inserted after "respective", and the words "national platforms" should be spelled with initial capital letters. In paragraph 7, the word "available" should be moved and inserted between "all" and "resources".

19. *Draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.45, as orally revised, was adopted.*

20. *Draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.11 was withdrawn.*

(d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind (*continued*) (A/C.2/59/L.13 and A/C.2/59/L.30)

Draft resolution on protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind (A/C.2/59/L.13 and A/C.2/59/L.30)

21. **Ms. Anzorge** (Poland), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.30, which she was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.13. The words "by

continuing to provide support for" in the eighth preambular paragraph should be replaced by the words "through continuing support to". In paragraph 7, the word "officers" should be replaced by the word "offices". At the end of that paragraph, a comma should be inserted between the words "secretariats" and "while".

22. *Draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.30, as orally revised, was adopted.*

23. **Ms. Tamlyn** (United States of America), speaking in explanation of position, said that her delegation was committed to the objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and to addressing climate change in a science-based, cost-effective manner. The United States had made it clear that it would neither ratify the Kyoto Protocol nor engage in efforts to ensure its entry into force. It therefore considered the ninth preambular paragraph of the text, which recalled a declaration made during the Millennium Summit of September 2000, to have been overtaken by changed policies and circumstances.

24. **Ms. Eizema** (Netherlands), speaking on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Norway, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, welcomed the adoption of the draft resolution and the Russian Federation's recent ratification of the Kyoto Protocol, paving the way for the Protocol's entry into force. The Kyoto Protocol would provide an additional legal basis for international efforts to address climate change, and the European Union looked forward to a successful outcome of the tenth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The European Union was committed to achieving concrete results, notably on joint implementation and clean development mechanism agreements. The third climate change assessment had revealed that climate change was indeed real and occurring more quickly than originally thought. That alarming trend had recently been further confirmed by the Arctic Climate Impact Assessment. Indeed, addressing that first comprehensive regional study on climate change would be a main priority for the European Union in 2005. She urged all those States that had not yet done so to ratify the Kyoto Protocol in a timely manner.

25. **Ms. Woudberg** (New Zealand) welcomed the recent ratification of the Kyoto Protocol by the Russian Federation, paving the way for the Protocol to come into force in early 2005. That would be a small but significant first step in the long but challenging process by the international community to address climate change. More work clearly needed to be done and her delegation intended to make a constructive contribution to the discussions on the next steps, beginning with the tenth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in December 2004 and the January 2005 International Meeting in Mauritius to review the Barbados Programme of Action on small island developing States.

26. *Draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.13 was withdrawn.*

(e) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa (*continued*)

Draft resolutions on the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa (A/C.2/59/L.14 and A/C.2/59/L.46)

27. **Ms. Anzorge** (Poland), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.46, which she was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.14.

28. *Draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.46 was adopted.*

29. *Draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.14 was withdrawn.*

Agenda item 86: Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and of the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly (*continued*) (A/C.2/59/L.5 and A/C.2/59/L.38)

Draft resolutions on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) (A/C.2/59/L.5 and A/C.2/59/L.38)

30. **Ms. Anzorge** (Poland), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.38, which she

was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.5. In paragraph 7, the words "UN-Habitat" should be inserted before the words "regional offices". In paragraph 21, the word "it" should be replaced by the words "the General Assembly".

31. **Mr. Seth** (Secretary of the Committee), explaining the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.38, noted that paragraph 9 requested the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of UN-Habitat and the United Nations Office at Nairobi under review so as to permit the delivery, in an effective manner, of necessary services to UN-Habitat and the other United Nations organs and organizations in Nairobi. Provisions had been made in the programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005 for implementing the terms of the resolution. Therefore, should the Second Committee adopt draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.38, there would be no requirement for additional appropriation, as the necessary expenses would be accommodated within existing resources. He drew attention to the provisions of section VI of General Assembly resolution 45/248 B of 21 December 1990, in which the Assembly reaffirmed that the Fifth Committee was the appropriate Main Committee of the Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters and also reaffirmed the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

32. *Draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.38, as orally revised, was adopted.*

33. *Draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.5 was withdrawn.*

Agenda item 91: Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources (*continued*) (A/C.2/59/L.41)

Draft resolution on permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources (A/C.2/59/L.41)

34. **Mr. Elfarnawany** (Egypt) introduced the draft resolution on behalf of the sponsors and noted that the seventh preambular paragraph should read "*Recalling* the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and recalling resolution ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004,".

35. **Ms. Chong** (Brunei Darussalam), **Ms. Navarro** (Cuba) and **Mr. Barry** (Senegal) said that their delegations had become sponsors of the draft resolution.

36. **The Chairman** said that the United States delegation had requested a recorded vote on draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.41.

37. *A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.41.*

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,

United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Australia, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Tuvalu, Vanuatu.

38. *Draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.41 was adopted by 140 votes to 4 with 8 abstentions.*

39. **Ms. Sindbjerg** (Denmark) pointed out that her delegation's vote in favour of the draft resolution had not been recorded.

40. **Mr. Leu** (Republic of Moldova) said that his delegation had intended to vote in favour of the draft resolution.

41. **Mr. Toktomushev** (Kyrgyzstan) said that his delegation had intended to vote in favour of the draft resolution.

42. **Mr. Boureima** (Niger) said that, had his delegation been present, it would have voted in favour of the draft resolution.

43. **Mr. Manis** (Sudan) said that, had his delegation been present, it would have voted in favour of the draft resolution.

44. **Mr. Van Loosdrecht** (Netherlands), speaking on behalf of the European Union, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey, said that the European Union had voted in favour of draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.41 because it believed that the natural resources of any territory seized by force or arms should not be used inappropriately or illegally by the occupying Power. In that regard, the European Union reaffirmed the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1941 to the Occupied Territories and also reaffirmed that any infringement of the rights of the Palestinian people with regard to that Convention was illegal.

45. However, the issues referred to in the resolution were matters which were to be addressed within the framework of the permanent status negotiations of the Middle East Peace Process. The European Union remained committed, in close cooperation with its partners in the Quartet and in the Arab world, to assisting the Parties in their efforts to find a final settlement to the Middle East conflict. Therefore, the resolution just adopted must not be considered as prejudicial to or preemptive of the outcome of those negotiations.

The meeting rose at 12.05 p.m.